

Wednesday March 28th
Jason and Linda's Excellent Adventure

Today was media day at the Zzyzx compound. Linda got up early to set up the hot air balloon used for finding caves to be displayed for the visiting media creatures. Unfortunately the fan did not work and the balloon had a bad reception from a nearby tree. Linda then ran to the media event where she was interviewed by Matt for the webcast. Afterward, she went out to gather more soil samples from the transect. These samples will be compared with those collected prior to the rains. Just as she got back to the Zzyzx station, Linda jumped into another car and went to collect thenordite specimens for the investigation of life within.



Jason began his morning in the lab in search of the elusive deoxyribonucleic acid, DNA. Following a biochemical protocol, the samples of the spiral staircase shaped molecule was isolated from soil samples taken from a transect samples across the Mojave Desert. In the afternoon, Jason crammed himself into the back of a car with other researchers and headed into the desert to measure algal coverage in desert crusts. The purpose of the task was to obtain initial data for a hypothesis relative to the possible growth patterns of photosynthetic organisms. Time will tell if such patterns exist.